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January 16, 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Mikoyan's call

During opening exchanges this morning with Mikoyan concerning his trip to the Coast, he indicated a belief that US foreign policies might change after the next election. I assured him that regardless of party the United States would hold to the same principles and follow, in the absence of changed conditions, the same policies.

Following are the subjects discussed in the order they came up, with a brief comment on each.

1. Berlin. Mikoyan invited suggestions or amendments to their proposal. I pointed out the seriousness of the situation and our determination to maintain our rights. In a further discussion of Berlin at the close of the afternoon session I told him that the British and French Governments had authorized me to say that they fully associated themselves with this position.
2. Germany. Each of us expounded at length our established positions. Interesting items which came up were, first, Mikoyan's assertion

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SECRET

-2-

assertion that the insurrection of June 1953 in East Germany would not recur. (I told him we would not want to see it recur for the involvements might be too serious.) Second, Mikoyan gave some intimation that confederation of the two Germanys might be an intermediate step to complete reunification.

3. The Far East. I raised with Mikoyan the danger spots of Korea, Indochina and particularly Taiwan. He was tough and reserved on the matter but agreed with me that changes should not be achieved by violence.

4. Middle East. I emphasized the reliance of Western Europe on Middle Eastern oil and the line of communications through the area. He disclaimed any Soviet intervention in any of the countries. The Iraqi revolution, he said, had surprised the Soviets. He expressed concern over the bilateral security agreements we are negotiating with Pakistan, Iran and Turkey. The discussion of this subject continued in our afternoon session in which Mikoyan reverted to these agreements and said that their signature would deteriorate our relations with the USSR. I explained their nature and the need for collective security arrangements in the face of Soviet power and threats.

5. Nuclear Test Talks. I said we would try to work out voting question but that we insisted effectiveness of control must not be frustrated. I repeated our desire for an agreement.

He commented

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SECRET

-3-

He commented that if we reached agreement here it might lead to other more important agreements.

6. Surprise Attack Conference. I told him that we were reconsidering the matter and studying the record. While anxious to resume talk I said that injection of political matters by Soviets altered character of talks as we had envisioned them.

7. Atomic Arms for Germany. Mikoyan asked me if we were giving atomic weapons to Germany. I told him that we could not give them to anyone under the law and that we had no intention of changing it. I said any such weapons in Europe were under US control.

8. Lost Airmen. I brought up question of the C-130 shot down by the Soviets. He said they had told us all they knew of the matter and that there would be no point in their holding any survivors or additional bodies. He expressed irritation at repeated raising of this issue.

I then reverted to the Berlin situation as noted above.

John Foster Dulles

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